

The Spark Gap

Newsletter of the
Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

Volume 19

APRIL 2002

Number 4

Rob Knight – AB9DF TO SPEAK AT THE APRIL MEETING

Rob Knight – KB9DF will bring his knowledge of Amateur Radio to the Mid-State ARC meeting April 20th. Knight is a QRP enthusiast and will coach us in the fine art of making contacts with lower power and a shoestring budget. Rob recently completed his first project kit by building a K1-Elecraft transceiver. He said it's been an enlightening experience and something every ham radio operator should try. Knight takes the floor for his talk at 8 AM during the MARC meeting held in the Johnson county EOC.

.....W8ISH

VEC TESTING APRIL 20TH

Testing for no code Technician and upgrading your present license will be given after the MARC monthly meeting. Please have a copy of your present license and some identification when you come to take a test. Good luck for those that are taking the test for the first time and those that are up grading their licenses.

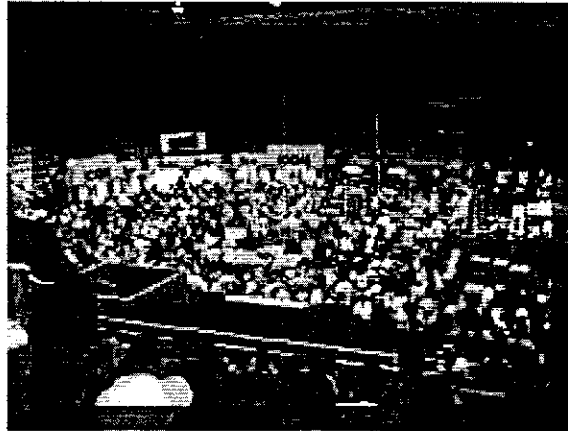
Here are the results of the testing on March 16th :

Bruce M. Stuart ----- TECH
Bradley K. Clark ----- TECH
James D. Short ----- TECH
Douglas D. Hume ---- GENERAL
Gabor A. Bathory ----- EXTRA

..... Joe, KF9LQ

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**Dayton Hamvention 2002
May 17th -19th, 2002**



Hara Arena 2001 Hamvention

It's that time of year again when the weather gets warmer and thoughts turn to spring and our favorite sport. I am not talking about baseball but amateur radio our favorite sport held in Hara Arena complex in Dayton, Ohio. This years Hamvention plans to be one of the most memorable and timely to be given in the 50 years of this gathering in Dayton. The emphasis is on Emergency Communications, with the recent events and our nation at war with terrorism this hits home with all of us. There will be over 1600 exhibitors and vendors in and around the complex. There is also one of the largest flea markets ever with just about anything you could want.

One word of advice, purchase your admission tickets early and include the bus ticket. This will save yourself from waiting in line and believe me that's no fun at all. If you are not going please consider it and if you have never gone, you need to go, and experience the largest hamfest anywhere.

See you in Dayton Bob N9SIU

For advance tickets and additional information go to the Hamvention 2002 web site.

Hamvention Web Site ---- <http://www.hamvention.org/>

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THE SPARK GAP

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The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the third Saturday of each month at the Johnson County Law Enforcement Center, Emergency Operations Center training room. MARC maintains the 146.835 – MHz (pl 151.4) repeater. Membership includes phone patch privileges. Dues are \$ 18.00 per year and are due January 1st of each year. New members may join at a pro-rated dues rate after the January 1st of each year.

JOHNSON CO. RACES sponsors a weekly communication net on the 146.835 repeater each Sunday evening at 7:00 PM EST. All amateurs are welcome to check-in, club membership or RACES membership is not required.

Club dues and/or membership applications should be mailed to:

Vernon Gill, N9QBO
MARC Treasurer
P.O. Box 836
Franklin, Indiana 46131

Please visit the MARC website at: [http:// www.midstatehams.org](http://www.midstatehams.org)

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What's New Around Here?

One thing that has caught my attention is the renewed interest in the 222 MHz band. Being new myself to the 222 MHz band has aroused my own interest in equipment and repeaters in our area. They're good deals to be made on radios from the various ham stores. I have know of several hams trying to locate new radios in the 222 MHz band and they have been told their orders are back ordered until a new shipment arrives. New models such as the Alinco DR-235T mobile rig and the new Alinco DJ-296T HT are just what you may be looking for. Both of these models have plenty of features and the price is affordable. The ADI/Pryme PR-222 is a feature packed HT with a 40 channel memory and offers five watts transmit power and it also is a good buy. The Kenwood TH-F6A HT is a tri-band radio that boasts 2M, 440MHz and 222MHz in a very small package.

There are repeaters in the area that gives good coverage to Johnson County.

They are:

Indianapolis area	224.920 – (pl. 77.0)
	224.980 –
	224.800 –
Morgan Co.	224.660 –
Shelby Co.	224.440 –

If you have that old 220 MHz radio sitting around not being used charge it up or hook it up and get back on the air. There is a weekly net, "Use it or Loose it" net each Thursday night at 8:30 EST on the 224.920 – (pl 77.0). Please check in and hear who else is using the 222MHz band it might surprise you.

..... Bob, N9SIU

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JUNE 22-23, 2002

Field Day will be here before you know it. Plan to be a part of the fun and fellowship as well as learning more about amateur radio. Come to the club meetings and help our club plan a great day for all. There will be plenty of opportunities for everyone to operate radios, make contacts and let the public see what amateur radio does in their communities. Please let Field Day 2002 be one of the best and with your help it can happen.

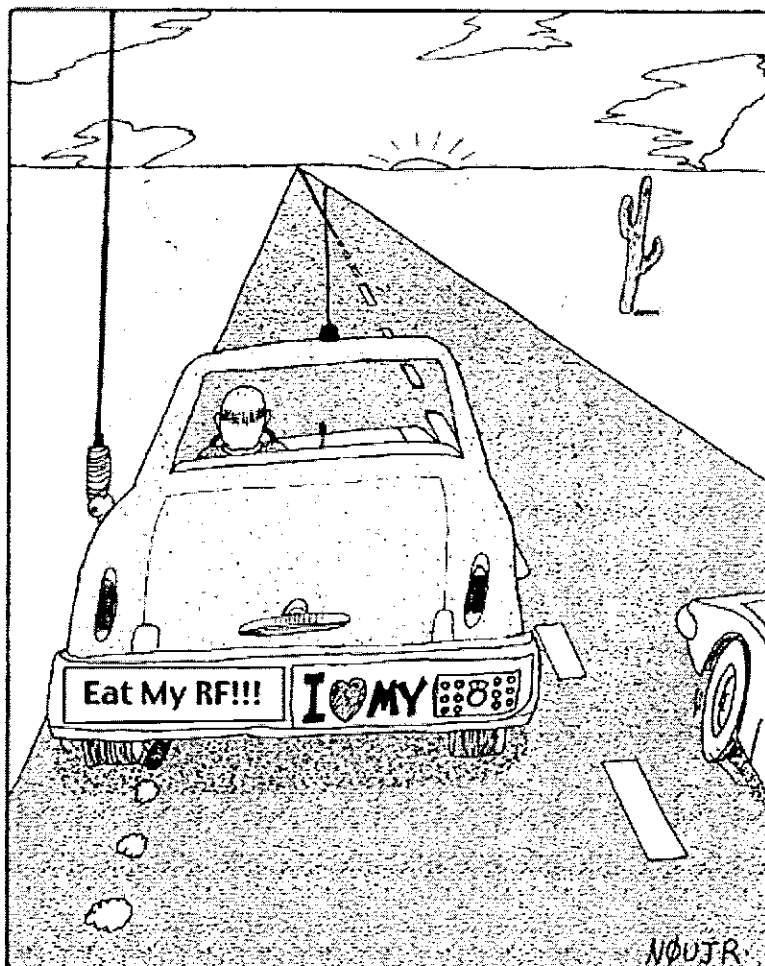
There are some new rule changes for Field Day 2002 and they can be seen in the May issue of QST pages 108 and 109.

Indiana QSO Party

May 4, 2002

Sponsored by Hoosier DX and Contest Club
[Information on HDXCC homepage](#)

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QCWA members with an attitude...

If you have any information or an article that you would like to see in the Spark Gap please send it to Bob LaGrange, N9SIU at n9siu@arrl.net . I would like to have all entries for the May issue no later than May 9th. If you have a certain radio model you would like to inform other amateurs about please send it to me. This is the club newsletter and I would like to see as much input from club members and friends as possible.

..... 73, N9SIU
